

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of generating a text sentence in a target language different in a source language, based on one or more words in the source language input as keywords, the method comprising:

an input step in which one or more keywords in the source language are input via an input means;

a sentence pair extraction step in which a sentence pair extraction means extracts one or more sentence pairs each including at least one of the keywords from a parallel corpus database including partial correspondence information indicating correspondence between a word/phrase in the source language and a word/phrase in the target language in each sentence pair;

a keyword-related phrase storage step in which a target-language keyword-related phrase corresponding to each source-language keyword-related phrase is detected from the partial correspondence information of each sentence pair and stored in the form of a keyword-related phrase table in a storage means;

a text sentence candidate generation step in which a text candidate generation means assumes dependency relationships among keyword-related phrases in the target language described in the keyword-related phrase table and

generates one or more target-language text sentence candidates; and an output step in which at least one text sentence candidate is output from an output means.

2. A method of generating a text sentence in a target language, according to claim 1, further comprising, after the sentence pair extraction step, a keyword-related phrase presentation step in which if, in the sentence pair extraction step, two or more sentence pairs are extracted for a keyword input in the input step and if two or more different keyword-related phrases in the source language are detected from the partial correspondence information, then the detected two or more keyword-related phrases in the source language are presented to a user such that the user is allowed to select a keyword-related phrase from the presented two or more keyword-related phrases,

wherein in the keyword-related phrase storage step, if the user selects a keyword-related phrase from the presented two or more keyword-related phrases, a keyword-related phrase in the target language corresponding to the selected keyword-related phrase in the source language is described in the keyword-related phrase table.

3. A method of generating a text sentence in a target language according to claim 1 or 2, wherein

each time one keyword is input in the input step, the sentence pair extraction step and the keyword-related phrase storage step are performed;

the method further comprising:

a co-occurrence word extraction step in which one or more co-occurrence words which co-occur with the keyword in the sentence pair are extracted and the extracted one or more co-occurrence words are described in a co-occurrence word table; and

a co-occurrence word presentation step in which the one or more co-occurrence words are presented to a user such that the user can select one or more co-occurrence word from the co-occurrence words described in the co-occurrence word table,

and wherein if one or more co-occurrence words are selected by the user, the selected one or more co-occurrence words are input as new keywords in the input step, and

the text sentence candidate generation step is performed after completion of inputting all keywords.

4. A method of generating a text sentence in a target language according to one of claims 1 to 3, wherein in the sentence pair extraction step, at the beginning of the step, one or more morphemes are added to or subtracted from a keyword input in the input step or a keyword input in the

input step is replaced with a similar word.

5. A method of generating a text sentence in a target language according to one of claims 1 to 4, wherein

a text sentence is generated for each of two or more target languages by performing the sentence pair extraction step, the keyword-related phrase storage step, and the text sentence candidate generation step for each combination of source and target languages; and

in the output step, text sentence candidates of respective two or more languages are output.

6. A method of generating a text sentence in a target language according to one of claims 1 to 5, wherein

in the text sentence candidate generation step,

the text candidate generation means assumes dependency relationships among keyword-related phrases in the target language described in the keyword-related phrase table and generates one or more target-language text sentence candidates; and

a source-language text candidate generation means assumes dependency relationships among keyword-related phrases in the source language described in the keyword-related phrase table and generates one or more source-language text sentence candidate,

in the output step, at least one set of text sentences in the source and target languages is output from the output means.

7. A method of generating a text sentence in a target language according to one of claims 1 to 6, further comprising, after the text sentence candidate generation step, an evaluation step in which an evaluation means evaluates each text sentence candidate, wherein

in the output step, at least one text sentence candidate is selected based on the evaluation and the selected text sentence candidate is output.

8. An apparatus for generating a text sentence in a target language different in a source language, based on one or more words in the source language input as keywords, the apparatus comprising:

input apparatus for inputting one or more keywords in the source language;

a parallel corpus database including partial correspondence information indicating correspondence between a word/phrase in the source language and a word/phrase in the target language in each sentence pair;

a sentence pair extraction means for extracting one or more sentence pairs each including at least one of the

keywords from the parallel corpus database;

a keyword-related phrase storage means for detecting a target-language keyword-related phrase corresponding to each source-language keyword-related phrase from the partial correspondence information of each sentence pair and storing the detected target-language keyword-related phrase in the form of a keyword-related phrase table;

a text candidate generation means that assumes dependency relationships among keyword-related phrases in the target language described in the keyword-related phrase table and generates one or more target-language text sentence candidates; and

an output means for outputting at least one text sentence candidate.

9. An apparatus for generating a text sentence in a target language, according to claim 8, further comprising a source-language keyword-related phrase candidate presentation means that determines, in a case in which two or more sentence pairs corresponding to an input keyword have been extracted by the sentence pair extraction means, whether two or more different keyword-related phrases in the source language are detected from the partial correspondence information associated with the two or more sentence pairs and that, if so, presents to a user the detected two or more

keyword-related phrases such that the user is allowed to select a keyword-related phrase from the presented two or more keyword-related phrases in the source language via the input means, wherein

if the user selects a keyword-related phrase from the presented two or more keyword-related phrases, the keyword-related phrase storage means stores a keyword-related phrase in the target language corresponding to the selected keyword-related phrase in the source language in the keyword-related phrase table.

10. An apparatus for generating a text sentence in a target language, according to claim 8 or 9, wherein each time one keyword is input via the input means, the sentence pair extraction means and the keyword-related phrase storage means operate,

the apparatus further comprising:

a co-occurrence word extraction means for extracting one or more co-occurrence words which co-occur with the keyword in the sentence pair and describing the extracted one or more co-occurrence words in a co-occurrence word table; and

a co-occurrence word presentation means for presenting the one or more co-occurrence words to a user such that the user can select one or more co-occurrence word from the co-

occurrence words described in the co-occurrence word table,  
and wherein if one or more co-occurrence words are  
selected by the user via the input means, the selected one  
or more co-occurrence words are input as new keywords, and  
the text candidate generation means operates after  
completion of inputting all keywords.

11. An apparatus for generating a text sentence in a  
target language, according to one of claims 8 to 10, further  
comprising a keyword modification means for modifying a  
keyword input via the input means by adding or subtracting  
one or more morphemes to or from the keyword or replacing  
the keyword with a similar word, wherein  
the sentence pair extraction means performs keyword  
modification using the keyword modification means.

12. An apparatus for generating a text sentence in a  
target language, according to one of claims 8 to 11, wherein  
the parallel corpus database includes partial correspondence  
information indicating correspondence between a word/phrase  
in the source language and a word/phrase in the target  
language in each sentence pair;

the sentence pair extraction means, the keyword-related  
phrase storage means, and the text candidate generation  
means perform processing for each combination of source and



target languages; and

text sentence candidates of respective two or more languages are output from the output means.

13. An apparatus for generating a text sentence in a target language, according to one of claims 8 to 12, wherein the text candidate generation means assumes dependency relationships among keyword-related phrases in the target language described in the keyword-related phrase table and generates one or more target-language text sentence candidates,

the apparatus further comprising source-language text candidate generation means that assumes dependency relationships among keyword-related phrases in the source language described in the keyword-related phrase table and generates one or more source-language text candidate,

and wherein at least one set of text sentences in the source and target languages is output from the output means.

14. An apparatus for generating a text sentence in a target language, according to one of claims 8 to 13, further comprising an evaluation means for evaluating the one or more text sentence candidates.